

CHAPTER 1 WATER SUPPLY

Secs.	
100	Access to Water Supply
101	Temporary Water Service
102	Taps and Connections
103	Water Service to New Buildings
104	Abandoned Service
105	Fire Hydrants and Other Water Controls
106	Permits for Use of Water from Fire Hydrants
107	Unnecessary Waste of Water
108	Tampering with Water Fixtures
109	Reports by Police Officers
110	Maintenance and Repair of Water Service Pipes
111	Leaks in Water Service Pipes
112	Fees
199	Definitions

100 ACCESS TO WATER SUPPLY

- 100.1 No person shall tap, cause to be tapped, or assist in tapping any water main, water pipe, or private connection in any main or pipe of the system of water supply in the District of Columbia for any purpose without the written permission of the Director, except employees of the Department who are authorized to do so in connection with the operation of the water distribution system.
- 100.2 No person shall obstruct the access to any fire hydrant, valve, stopcock, water meter, or other appurtenance(s) connected with the water mains or service pipes, by placing any material upon or adjacent to those fixtures or appurtenances, or in any other manner, except employees of the Department in the discharge of their official duties.
- 100.3 No person shall permit persons in his or her employ to obstruct the access to any fire hydrant, valve, water meter, stopcock, or any other appurtenance(s) connected with the water mains or service pipes of the District in any manner, except employees of the Department in the discharge of their official duties.
- 100.4 [Deleted] 40 DCR 1300 (February 12, 1993).
- 100.5 [Deleted] 40 DCR 1300 (February 12, 1993).

- 100.6 Any person violating any provision of §§101, 102, 103, 104, 108, 1000, 1001, 1002, 1005, 1008, 1009, 2000, 2001, and 2002 of this title shall be subject to civil sanctions provided in the Litter Control Administration Act of 1985.
- 100.7 Any person violating any other provision of this title for which a specific penalty is not provided shall, upon conviction, be punished by a fine of not more than three hundred dollars (\$300).

AUTHORITY: Unless otherwise noted, the authority for this chapter is the §§401 and 402 of Reorganization Plan No. 3 of 1967, effective August 11, 1967, filed August 11, 1967, D.C. Code Vol. 1 at 126 (1981 Ed.); the Water and Sewer Repair and Compensation Act of 1976, D.C. Law 1-98, D.C. Code 6-401 *et seq.* (1995 Repl. Vol.); §412 of the District of Columbia Self-Government and Governmental Reorganization Act, 87 Stat. 790. Pub. L. 93-198 D.C. Code §1-227(a); and §§IV(A) and V of Reorganization Plan No. 4 of 1983, 30 DCR 6428 (December 16, 1983). Mayor's Order 91-176, 38 DCR 6821, dated October 24, 1991.

SOURCE: Commissioners' Order No. 67-1536a; as amended by Commissioner's Order No. 68-96; as further amended by Article 23, §§1 and 4 of the Police Regulations for the District of Columbia; 12 DCRR §§404.1 and 404.4 (October 12, 1970), Special Edition; by §2(c) of the Litter Control Expansion Amendment Act of 1987, D.C. Law 7-38, 34 DCR 5326, 5327 (August 14, 1987); and by Final Rulemaking published at 40 DCR 1300 (February 12, 1993).

EDITOR'S NOTE: Transfer of functions - §219 of the "Water and Sewer Authority Establishment and Department of Public Works Reorganization Act of 1996," D.C. Law 11-111, effective April 18, 1996, transferred the functions of the Water and Sewer Utility Administration of the Department of Public Works to the independent District of Columbia Water and Sewer Authority.

101 TEMPORARY WATER SERVICE

- 101.1 When temporary water service pipe is used pending the installation of a regular water main, the temporary service pipe shall be disconnected immediately after a regular water main has been laid, and the service connected directly on the main.
- 101.2 No permit shall be issued to a registered plumber to lay a temporary water service pipe to supply a building, establishment, lot, or other premises on any street in which there is no water main until the owner or lawful agent signs an agreement to comply with §101.1.
- 101.3 If there is any failure or delay on the part of the owner or lawful agent, after due notice has been given by the Department to fully and promptly comply with the agreement on which a permit was issued for laying a temporary water service pipe, the Department shall cut-off the supply of water to the premises, and it shall not be turned on until the provisions of §101.1 have been met.

SOURCE: 12 DCRR §401.1 (October 1981).

102 TAPS AND CONNECTIONS

- 102.1 No public watermain shall be tapped or connections made to a public watermain under any circumstances, except by the regular tappers or construction forces of the Department.
- 102.2 The provision of taps or connections to the public watermain shall be at the expense of the applicant.

- 102.3 Upon application, approval, deposit of cost by the applicant, and the submission of an executed "Authority Card" for each service, the Department will install taps (sizes 3/4 in. through 2 in.), or connections (3 in. in diameter and larger) including tees, sleeves, valves, valve casings, or valve boxes.
- 102.4 Each water service larger than one and one-half inch (1½ in.) shall have stop valve with approved valvebox as close as practicable to the public water main.
- 102.5 Taps or connections to watermain larger than twelve inches (12 in.) in diameter will not be permitted without specific written approval of the Director or his or her duly authorized representative.
- 102.6 No tap or connection shall be nearer than two feet (2 ft.) to a bell or coupling of a watermain.
- 102.7 No two (2) taps shall be nearer together than two feet (2 ft.).
- 102.8 In no case shall a water service pipe from the tap in the main to the building line be less than three-quarters of an inch (¾ in.) in size,
- 102.9 In no case shall the valves of the service pipe be smaller in size than the supply pipe.

SOURCE: 12 DCRR §§401.2 and 401.3 (October 1981).

103 WATER SERVICE TO NEW BUILDINGS

- 103.1 Separate fire and domestic services shall be provided for any building, except as follows:
 - (a) An entirely metered service may be used for both domestic and fire service;
 - (b) A combined service with meter on the domestic branch only may be used where the fire service branch is used solely for supply of a closed circuit sprinkler system controlled by alarm valves or supervisory service; or
 - (c) A combined service with a standard meter on the domestic branch and a detector check of a type approve by the American Insurance Association (AIA) on the fire service branch may be used where the fire service branch supplies any open sprinkler system, standpipes, hose connection outlets, external fire hydrant, or other outlets.
- 103.2 Under §§103.1(b) and 103.1(c), if a combined service with domestic branch not exceeding two inches (2 in.) in diameter is to be installed, the domestic branch shall be supplied by means of a corporation cock inserted in the main line of the combined service by the Department at the expense of the applicant.
- 103.3 In all cases involving metering of branches of combined services, the meters shall be installed as close as practicable to the point of branching.
- 103.4 Curb-cocks and boxes shall be prohibited.

SOURCE: 12 DCRR §401.4 (October 1981).

104 ABANDONED SERVICE

- 104.1 No permit for a water supply to any property shall be installed until all outstanding charges for water consumed at the premises have been paid, and the applicant has made satisfactory arrangement with the Department for removal from the public main of all abandoned taps or connections formerly supplying all or any part of the property, including those taps or connections which will become abandoned after the installation of a new supply.
- 104.2 Except as otherwise provided in this section, an applicant shall have the option to do either of the following, subject to compliance with existing rules and regulations:
- (a) Excavating and exposing the tap or connection (for removal by the Department) and backfilling the excavation; or
 - (b) Depositing (with the D.C. Treasurer) the amount of the fee fixed by the Director for the performance of all work in connection with the removal of the tap or connection.
- 104.3 In all cases where the connections are larger than two inches (2 in.), removal shall be accomplished by the Department in accordance with the option set forth in §104.2(b).
- 104.4 Under the option set forth in §104.2(a), the applicant shall be responsible for securing all required permits and for repairs to pavements.
- 104.5 No permit shall be issued for a temporary or special use of water through a tap or connection until the applicant (in addition to complying with the requirements of §104.1) has deposited with the D.C. Treasurer the amount of the established fee for tap removal to cover the estimated cost of removal of the connection to be applied upon termination of that use. If the applicant has the tap removed under the option set forth in §104.2(a), the applicant may apply for and receive a refund of the deposit.
- 104.6 No permit for razing a building shall be issued until the applicant has paid all outstanding charges for water consumed at the premises and has deposited with the D.C. Treasurer the amount of the established fee or the estimated cost of removal of all taps or connections formerly supplying the premises.
- 104.7 If the service pipe is definitely recorded as being of a type currently permitted by the *D.C. Plumbing Code* and the applicant anticipates reusing it to supply new construction on the property, the deposit may be noted "Subject to approval of the Chief, Plumbing Inspection" and removal of the tap or connection deferred until completion of the new construction, at which time the deposit will be refunded if the old service is re-used.

- 104.8 If two (2) or more lots are integrated into one property, no razing permit for any building on that property shall be used until deposit is made by the applicant to cover removal of all abandoned taps and connections formerly supplying any portion of that property.
- 104.9 If an abandoned service is found to be leaking or defective, the owner of the property which was supplied by the service shall, within five (5) days of notice from the Department, arrange for tap or connection removal as provided in this section.
- 104.10 Written notice addressed to the owner of record as shown in the records of the Property Tax Division of the D.C. Department of Finance and Revenue, shall be deemed sufficient for the purpose of this section.
- 104.11 The Director may authorize removal of a tap or connection without notice to the property owner when, in his or her judgment, the condition of the service pipe constitutes a hazard to life, health, or property. The cost of removal of the tap or connection by the Department shall be charged to and collected from the owner.
- 104.12 The owner of property supplied by any service may be required by the Director to disconnect the service in accordance with the option set forth in this section, if either of the following apply:
- (a) The service pipe has not been used for a period of one (1) year and no imminent use is apparent; or
 - (b) The service pipe is not definitely recorded as being of the type currently permitted by the *D.C. Plumbing Code*.

SOURCE: 12 DCRR §401.5 (October 1981).

EDITOR'S NOTE: The D.C. Plumbing Code referred to in this section has been superseded by D.C. Law 6-216, Construction Codes Approval and Amendments Act of 1986, effective March 21, 1987. Section 12 of D.C. Law 6-216 provides that the construction regulations existing prior to March 21, 1987, remain in effect for projects having reached specified stages of completion. D.C. Law 6-216 adopted the 1984 National BOCA Codes, and the 1985 D.C. Supplement to the National BOCA Codes. Effective November 27, 1992 (39 DCR 8665), the 1984 BOCA Codes, and the 1985 D.C. Supplement to the National BOCA Codes were superseded by the adoption of the 1990 BOCA Codes, and the 1992 D.C. Supplement to the BOCA Codes.

105 FIRE HYDRANTS AND OTHER WATER CONTROLS

- 105.1 No person shall open or cause to be opened or assist in opening any fire hydrant under the control of the Mayor of the District of Columbia, except as specifically provided in this section.
- 105.2 Fire hydrants may be opened in the case of actual fire, but only to the extent necessary to combat the fire.
- 105.3 Fire hydrants may be opened by employees of the District of Columbia who are authorized to do so.

- 105.4 The Director of the D.C. Department of Recreation may authorize the use of water from designated fire hydrants for community recreational purposes at no charge to the sponsors of the activity.
- 105.5 Fire hydrants may be opened by other persons who are authorized to do so in accordance with the provisions of §106.
- 105.6 In cases where Potomac water is needed for construction or other temporary purpose, a permit shall be issued by the Department for the use of fire hydrants, subject to the payment of the prevailing fee and the provisions of §106.
- 105.7 No person, other than authorized employees of the Department, shall turn off or turn on, or otherwise operate any water valve, cut off, curbcock, or similar control located in public space, except registered plumbers who are authorized to operate curbcocks, cutoffs, or similar controls on consumers services (excluding side valves, three inch (3 in.) and larger, leading from the public water main).
- 105.8 Conviction of a violation of the provisions of this section shall be punishable by a fine of one hundred dollars (\$100).

SOURCE: Final Rulemaking (DES Order No. 40-42-01) published at 25 DCR 7223 (February 2, 1979), incorporating text of Proposed Rulemaking published at 24 DCR 5407 (December 15, 1978); Article 23, §2 of the Police Regulations of the District of Columbia; 12 DCRR §§404.2, 404.3, 404.6 (October 1981).

106 PERMITS FOR USE OF WATER FROM FIRE HYDRANTS

- 106.1 Each person desiring the use of one or more fire hydrants for the purposes set forth in §105 and this section (except §105.4) shall apply for a permit on the form provided by the Director. The proper forms are available from the Department.
- 106.2 Permission for use of hydrants for community recreational purposes shall be requested through the Department of Recreation.
- 106.3 The Department representative shall ensure that water from another source is not available before processing the permit application. If water from another source is available, the applicant shall be required to file for a permit to use a temporary tap or a connection.
- 106.4 The following fees shall be charged for use of fire hydrant water:
- (a) For construction, demolition, dust control, or other similar purposes, the fee shall be twenty-five dollars (\$25) per day for each fire hydrant.
 - (b) For filling swimming pools without meters, baptismal pools, tank trucks, storage tanks, and similar uses where the amount of water used can be determined, the fee shall be determined using the prevailing water rate.
- 106.5 Approved users of fire hydrants shall be responsible for the following:
- (a) Damage that they may cause to the fire hydrant(s);

- (b) The disconnection of all hoses and other appurtenances from the fire hydrant when the hydrant is not in use; and
- (c) Obtaining permission from the Department of Public Works for laying hose in public space.

106.6 Hose or pipe connections shall be equipped with an approved back flow preventer (such as an air gap or check valve) if there is any possibility of potential contamination of the water supply.

106.7 In cases where flow regulation valves are placed on the outlets of fire hydrants, those hydrants shall be turned on full when in use.

106.8 The use of any implement or tool, except the authorized fire hydrant key to turn the water from the hydrant on or off is prohibited.

SOURCE: Final Rulemaking (DES Order No. 40-42-01) published at 25 DCR 7223 (February 2, 1979), incorporating text of Proposed Rulemaking published at 24 DCR 5407 (December 15, 1978); 12 DCRR §§404.21(a), 404.22, 404.23, 404.25(a)-(f) (October 1981).

107 UNNECESSARY WASTE OF WATER

107.1 No occupant of premises into which water has been introduced shall permit the water to run or waste unnecessarily from any water pipe, hydrant, cock, street washing, or other fixture.

107.2 No occupant of premises into which water has been introduced shall permit the water to overflow or flood the sidewalk or foot pavement, and thus become annoying or dangerous.

107.3 No occupant of premises into which water has been introduced shall permit a flow of water to be conducted into adjacent premises, and there be used, except in case of fire or other emergency.

107.4 If any water pipe, hydrant, cock hose connection, curbcock box, or other fixture be found leaking, out of repair, or inoperable, and the occupant, owner, or agent of the premises refuses or neglects to have the necessary repairs made, after due notification by the Department; or if that person refuses admission to authorized representatives of the Department into the premises when in the official discharge of his or her duties, the water supply to the premises may be terminated until satisfactory repairs or arrangements have been made to prevent the waste or unlawful use.

107.5 Conviction of a violation of the provisions of this section shall be punishable by a fine of one hundred dollars (\$100).

SOURCE: Article 23, §5 of the Police Regulations of the District of Columbia; 12 DCRR §404.5 (October 1981).

108 TAMPERING WITH WATER FIXTURES

- 108.1 No person shall wilfully or maliciously break, remove, injure, deface, or destroy any water main, bend, branch, sleeve, cap, valve, valve box, hydrant, fountain, hose connection, fire hydrant, service pipe, stopcock box, meter, or any other fixture, thing, or covering used or connected with the distribution of water throughout the avenues, streets, or alleys in the District of Columbia.
- 108.2 No person shall wilfully or maliciously break, remove, injure, deface, or destroy any water main, bend, branch, sleeve, cap, valve, valve box, hydrant, fountain, hose connection, fire hydrant, service pipe, stopcock box, meter, or any other fixture, thing, or covering used or connected with the introduction of water into any building or structure in the District of Columbia.
- 108.3 Conviction of a violation of the provisions of this section shall be punishable by a fine of one hundred dollars (\$100).

SOURCE: Article 23, §6 of the Police Regulations of the District of Columbia; 12 DCRR §404.6 (October 1981).

109 REPORTS BY POLICE OFFICERS

- 109.1 It shall be the duty of all police officers to report in writing or otherwise to the Department any of the following:
- (a) Any leak, waste, or break in any water main, service pipe, meter, fire hydrant, public hydrant, drinking fountain, standpipe, horse trough, hose connection, valve, stopcock, or other water supply facility.
 - (b) Any valve casing, stopcock box, meter housing, lawn washer (hose connection), or similar device without a proper or secure cover or plate;
 - (c) Any fire hydrant that has a missing operating nut or discharge outlet cap;
 - (d) Any accumulation of ice in public space caused by a leak or waste in the District water system;
 - (e) Any damage to any appurtenance or item of equipment connected to or used in connection with the District water system resulting from an accident or any other cause;
 - (f) Any settlement or hazardous condition existing at any excavation or backfill in public space resulting from maintenance or repair work on the District water system;
 - (g) The number and locations of buildings destroyed by fire if supplied with water; or
 - (h) Generally all violations of this title and such further information as may in their judgment be important.

SOURCE: Article 23, §8 of the Police Regulations of the District of Columbia; 12 DCRR §404.8 (October 1981).

110 MAINTENANCE AND REPAIR OF WATER SERVICE PIPES

- 110.1 This section and §111 are promulgated in accordance with D.C. Code §6-405 (1995 Repl. Vol.), under authority set forth in D.C. Code §6-405(g) (1995 Repl. Vol.).
- 110.2 The Department shall maintain all water service pipe from the street mains to the property line.
- 110.3 If a portion of the structure (such as a porch, vault, or footing) projects beyond the property line, the Department shall maintain the water connection only to the outermost structural projection of the premises.
- 110.4 All pipes and appurtenances on private property shall be maintained by and at the expense of the property owner.
- 110.5 When action is necessary to expedite or facilitate the maintenance of a water connection, the Department may perform maintenance or repair work on private property if agreed to in advance by the property owner. The cost of the work, including overhead expenses, shall be paid by the property owner.
- 110.6 Excavations in public space made and left open by the Department for the use or convenience of registered plumbers employed by private owners or other parties for the repair of water service pipes or other water appurtenances, shall be promptly reported to the police division or precinct with jurisdiction over the area of excavation by telephone, and followed by written confirmation.

SOURCE: Article 23, §7 of the Police Regulations of the District of Columbia; 12 DCRR §§503.1, 503.4(a)-(b) (October 1981).

111 LEAKS IN WATER SERVICE PIPES

- 111.1 When there is a complaint of a leak in a building water connection, the Director shall determine if the leak is in public space or at a meter set by the District.
- 111.2 If the Department determines that the leak is in public space or at a meter set by the District, the leak shall be repaired at no cost to the property owner.
- 111.3 If the Department determines that the leak is not the responsibility of the District, the property owner shall be notified and shall be responsible for having the leak repaired by a registered master plumber at the owner's expense.
- 111.4 If a leaking water pipe is a public nuisance or hazard, or the leak is damaging property, the water supply to the premises will be shut-off immediately to abate the problem and shall remain shut-off until repairs are made.
- 111.5 If the property line and the building line are the same, and the leak is on public space, the Department shall insert the repaired service into the building and provide a service valve in the building. The owner shall be responsible for internal connection.

SOURCE: 12 DCRR §§503.4(e)-(g) (October 1981).

112 FEES

- 112.1 Fees for installation, removal of water and sewer connection, water meter repair, removal, and resettings shall be as follows:

SCHEDULE I

<u>Material or Service</u>	<u>Fee</u>
Tap removal (Water)	\$ 780.00
Tap removal (Sewer)	2,750.00
Pointing up sewer taps	288.00
Insertion of Y-branch	930.00

SCHEDULE II

<u>Water Tap Insertions</u>	<u>Fee</u>
3/4 inch	\$ 75.00
1 inch	78.00
1 1/4 inch	107.00
1 1/2 inch	145.00
2 inch	185.00

SCHEDULE III

Installation of Water

<u>Service Connections</u>	<u>Fee</u>
3 inch	\$4,200.00
4 inch	4,200.00
6 inch	4,200.00
8 inch	4,200.00

- 112.2 Fees for a fire hydrant flow test and for the installation and removal of water bubblers shall be as follows:

<u>Description of Service</u>	<u>Fee</u>
Fire Hydrant Flow Test	\$140
Installation and Removal of Water Bubblers:	
1 Water bubbler	175
2 Water bubblers in same general location	240
3 Water bubblers in same general location	310
4 or 5 Water bubblers in same general location	570

- 112.3 For the purposes of §112.2, the phrase "In the same general location" means that the distance between the first and last bubbler of the group is eight thousand feet (8,000 ft.) or less. A distance greater than eight thousand feet (8,000 ft.) shall require a separate crew.

SOURCE: Final Rulemaking published at 31 DCR 1729 (April 13, 1984); as amended by Final Rulemaking published at 33 DCR 3109 (May 23, 1986).

199 DEFINITIONS

199.1 When used in this chapter, the following words and phrases shall have the meanings ascribed:

Department - the D.C. Department of Public Works.

Director - the Director of the D.C. Department of Public Works or his or her lawful agent, representative, or designee.

SOURCE: Final Rulemaking published at 40 DCR 1300 (February 12, 1993).

